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PORT HEALTH DISTRICT
OF WORKINGTON



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
PORT MEDICAL OFFICER
For the Year 1950

BY

JAMES L. HUNTER,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Public Health Department,
Town Hall, Workington,
February, 1951.*

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MEMBERS OF THE WORKINGTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

Mr. J. R. DAVIS (Chairman).

Mr. C. BAIRD.

Mr. A. HALL.

„ E. BARRACLOUGH.

„ J. POOLE.

„ A. V. CATTRELL.

„ W. ROE.

„ J. DOGGART.

„ D. VICKERS.

Mr. S. WALKER.

JOHN R. COCKFIELD, *Clerk to the Authority.*

JAMES L. HUNTER, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.,
Port Medical Officer of Health.

R. E. FLETCHER, M.B., CH.B.,
Deputy Port Medical Officer.

R. JAMES, *Port Health Inspector.**

C. E. PEARSON, *Assistant Port Health Inspector.*

TOWN HALL,

WORKINGTON,

February, 1951.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Workington
Port Health Authority.*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1950, which has been prepared in accordance with Memorandum 302/SA of the Ministry of Health, dated December, 1946.

1. *Amount of Shipping Entering the Port
during the Year.*

		NUMBER	TONNAGE	No Inspected.		No. Reported to be Defective.	No. of Vessels on which defects were remedied.	No. of Vessels on which defects were found and reported to the Ministry of Transport Surveyors.	No. of Vessels reported as having, or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board.
				By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Port Health Inspector				
Foreign	Steamers ...	120	174075	4	120	21	19	...	2
	Motor ...	29	28941	2	29	2	2	...	...
	Sailing ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Fishing ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Foreign ...		149	203016	6	149	23	21	...	2
Coast-wise	Steamers ...	193	48367	...	104	11	11	...	...
	Motor ...	76	18892	...	47	...	...	...	...
	Sailing ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Fishing ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Coastwise ...		269	67259	...	151	11	11	...	...
Total Foreign and Coastwise ...		418	270275	6	300	34	32	..	2

2. *Character and Trade of the Port.*

(a) *Passenger Traffic during the Year.*

Inwards 7. Outwards 1.

(b) *Cargo Traffic.*

The chief import was again iron ore. Other imports included ingot moulds, coal duff, Government stores, bricks, ganister and general cargo. Exports included rails, rail chairs, billets, sleepers, coke breeze, Government stores, pig iron, tar, pitch and coal.

(c) *Foreign Ports from which vessels arrive.*

Egypt—Abu-Zenima.

Netherlands—Yuimden.

North Africa—Algiers, Bona, Melillá, Port Romaine.

Norway—Narvik.

Sierra Leone—Pepel, Freetown.

Spain—Almeria, Bilbao, Hornillo.

Sweden—Oxelosund.

3. *Water Supply.*

The Port receives the same supply as the Borough of Workington, viz. from Crummock Lake. Vessels are supplied from hydrants situated on the dockside. The character of the water is 1.4 degrees of hardness and is of exceptional purity, proved by chemical and bacteriological examination several times during the year.

Enquiries are made from all Masters as to the source of existing supplies. During the year samples of water from two vessels were submitted for examination and proved satisfactory.

Notices were given the Masters of three vessels to clean out water storage tanks.

4. *Port Health Regulations, 1933 and 1945.*

In the Annual Report for 1946, the arrangements for dealing with the Regulations were fully described, and these continue to work satisfactorily.

The following 45 cases of sickness or injury were reported on 18 vessels and medical attention was received:— Venereal Diseases 32, Malaria 2, Influenza 2, Tonsillitis 2, Boils 1, Chicken Pox 1, Scabies 1, Injuries 4.

The number of cases of Venereal Diseases has more than doubled as compared with the previous year. Information cards affording free confidential treatment are distributed to all vessels.

One notice was issued in pursuance of the Parrots (Prohibition of Import) Regulations.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE LANDED FROM VESSELS.

Disease.	Number of Cases during the year.		No. of Vessels. Concerned.	Average Number of Cases for previous five years.
	Passengers.	Crew.		
Chickenpox	—	1	1	.4
Dysentery	—	—	—	.2
Influenza	—	2	2	1.2
Malaria	—	2	2	.8
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1.0
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	.2

No cases of infectious sickness occurring on vessels during the voyage were disposed of prior to arrival.

5. *Measures against Rodents.*

All ships entering the Port are examined for evidence of rats. Where rat indications are discovered trapping and baiting are carried out, and specimens caught are sent for bacteriological examination. The harbour, buildings, breakwater and foreshore are also periodically inspected for evidence of rats.

In accordance with Article 28 of the International Sanitary Convention of Paris, 1926, sixteen deratisation exemption certificates were issued during the year.

Deratisation Certificates and Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued during the Year.

Net Tonnage	Number of Ships	Number of Deratisation Certificates Issued					No. of Deratisation Exemption Certificates Issued	Total Certificates Issued
		After fumigation with			After Trapping, Poisoning, etc.	Total		
		HCN.	Sulphur	HCN. & Sulphur				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		9
Ships up to 300 tons	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
" from 301 tons to 1,000 tons	1	...	...	...	...	...	15	15
" from 1,001 tons to 3,000 tons	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" from 3,001 tons to 10,000 tons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" over 10,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	16	...	...	...	...	...	16	16

Rats destroyed during the Year.

(1) On Vessels.

Number of Rats	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct	Nov.	Dec	Total
Black ...		4		.	1				14				19
Brown ...											1		1
Species not recorded													
Examined ...		1			1				2		1		5
Infected with Plague													

∞

No rats were caught on the dockside during the year.

No vessels came from plague infected or suspected ports during the year.

6. *Hygiene of Crews' Spaces.*

Classification of Nuisances.

Nationality of vessel.	Number inspected during the year.	Defects of original construction.	Structural defects through wear and tear.	Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.
British	226	—	17	20
Other Nations ...	74	—	5	4

During the year 34 informal or verbal notices were served dealing with 46 nuisances, viz. :—

Defective sanitary fittings	8
Choked scuppers	5
Choked sink wastepipes	3
Leaky deck	1
Insufficient ventilation	1
Defective ports and port glasses	6
Defective skylight	1
Clean water tanks	3
Accommodation to paint	4
Defective heating	1
Dirty mattresses	2
Dirty quarters	5
Verminous quarters	6

The number of verminous vessels continues to decrease. More vessels now carry insecticides and infestation is kept down to a minimum, if not entirely eradicated.

7. *Food Inspection.*

One foreign-going vessel brought a part cargo of chocolate, orange oil, fruit juices, wines and pickles. No examination was carried out as the consignment was transferred to a coastal vessel and taken to Liverpool.

General.

The foreshore under the jurisdiction of the Authority has been periodically inspected during the year, and the carcasses of 3 porpoises, 2 cows, 2 sheep, and 1 bullock were disposed of.

I must record my appreciation to the staff for their continued co-operation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES L. HUNTER,

Port Medical Officer.

